

**TESTIMONY**  
**GM 271 & GM 272**  
**LATE**

The Pacific Resource  
**PARTNERSHIP**



# LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony of C. Mike Kido  
External Affairs  
The Pacific Resource Partnership

Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs  
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair  
Senator Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair

GM 271/GM 272 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of  
Agriculture, Gubernatorial Nominee, RICHARD HA  
Friday, February 19, 2010  
3:15 P.M.  
Conference Room 229

Chair Clayton Hee, Vice Chair Jill Tokuda, and members of the committee:

My name is C. Mike Kido, External Affairs for the Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP), a labor-management consortium representing over 240 signatory contractors and the Hawaii Carpenters Union.

PRP supports the nomination of Richard Ha to the State of Hawaii Board of Agriculture. Mr. Ha has 30 years of experience in the farming industry and continues his work researching and experimenting with new products, farm's energy- and labor-efficient systems. His experience, knowledge and his concern for the long-term well-being of our state will make him an invaluable asset to the State of Hawaii Board of Agriculture.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our opinion and we kindly ask for your support on the nomination of Richard Ha to the State of Hawaii Board of Agriculture.



**Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc. LATE TESTIMONY**

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Phone (808) 885-5599 • Fax (808) 887-1607  
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SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AGRICULTURE AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

**GM 271 & 272**

**Consideration and Confirmation of RICHARD HA  
For State Board of Agriculture**

**February 19, 2005 3:15 pm**

Chairman Hee and Members of the Committee:

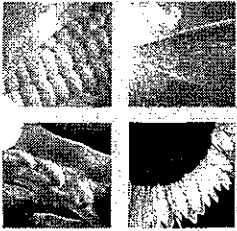
My name is Alan Gottlieb, and I am the President of the Hawaii Cattlemen's Council. The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council, Inc. (HCC) is the Statewide umbrella organization comprised of the five county level Cattlemen's Associations. Our 130+ member ranchers represent over 60,000 head of beef cows; more than 75% of all the beef cows in the State. Ranchers are the stewards of approximately 25% of the State's total land mass.

The Hawaii Cattlemen's Council **strongly supports** GM 271 & 272 nominating Richard Ha to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture.

Richard Ha is a person of impeccable integrity. He is well thought of and respected by members of the agricultural community in the State of Hawaii. Richard has been a leader in Hawaii Agriculture for many years.

I also serve on the State Board of Agriculture and have worked on this Board over the last several months with Richard. Working on the Board of Ag with Richard, I find him to be thoughtful and insightful.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify in strong support of GM 271 & 272 nominating Richard Ha to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture.



# Hawaii Crop Improvement Association

*Growing the Future of Worldwide Agriculture in Hawaii*

## LATE TESTIMONY

Testimony By: Alicia Maluafiti  
GM 271/GM 272 – Confirmation of Richard Ha  
to the Board of Agriculture

The Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs  
Friday, February 19, 2010  
Room 229, 3:15 p.m.

### Position: Strongly Support

Aloha Chair Hee, Vice Chair Tokuda, and members of the Committee:

My name is Alicia Maluafiti, Executive Director of the Hawaii Crop Improvement Association. HCIA is a nonprofit trade association representing the agricultural seed industry in Hawaii. Now the state's largest agricultural commodity, the seed industry contributes to the economic health and diversity of the islands by providing high quality jobs in rural communities, keeping important agricultural lands in agricultural use, and serving as responsible stewards of Hawaii's natural resources.

HCIA is proud to offer supporting testimony on the appointment of Richard Ha to the Board of Agriculture. His sensible and balanced perspective about the important role of agriculture and the challenges facing farmers will be an asset to the board as well as the entire agricultural industry. Richard has embraced a progressive philosophy that utilizes the many tools of technology as well as traditional growing methodology to ensure that his family farm - Hamakua Springs Country Farms – is not only sustainable and efficient, but the produce tastes good.

Richard also brings to the board a broader community and business background through his roles with the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation and Maunakea's thirty-meter telescope project. He has demonstrated great sensitivity to addressing the concerns of the host culture, yet is still able to represent the positive aspects of growth to Hawaii island without sacrificing their sense of place.

Richard brings valuable leadership skills and 30-years of farming experience to the Board of Agriculture. He is well respected within the agricultural community and has a friendly, outgoing and personable communication style that is embraced by everyone around him. He is an integral part of the agricultural industry and is a model of tomorrow's farmers.

HCIA is proud to offer supporting testimony of his appointment.

#### **HCIA 2008-2009 Board of Directors**

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**Vice President**  
Fred Perlak

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John Anderson

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Paul Koehler  
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Martha Smith  
Mark Sloutemyer  
Jill Suga

**Past President**  
Sarah Styron

**Executive Director**  
Alicia Maluafiti

# LATE TESTIMONY

Personal Testimony Presented before the  
Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs  
February 19, 2010 at 3:15 p.m., Room 229

Governor's Message Nos. 271 and 272  
Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation to the  
Board of Agriculture  
Gubernatorial Nominee RICHARD HA  
Terms to Expire: 06/30/2010 and 06/30/2014

by  
Andrew G. Hashimoto

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Tokuda, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Andrew Hashimoto, and I am the Dean and Director of the University of Hawaii at Mānoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR). I also serve as an ex-officio member of the Board of Agriculture. I am pleased to contribute personal testimony on GM 271 and GM 272, for the consideration and confirmation of Mr. Richard Ha as a member of the Board of Agriculture to serve consecutive terms as stated above. This testimony does not represent the position of the University of Hawaii or CTAHR.

I am in strong support for Richard Ha's appointment to the Board of Agriculture. He is the president and founder of Hamakua Springs Country Farms, a family farm on the Hamakua Coast of the Big Island of Hawai'i. The Ha family has been farming for over 50 years, and due to Richard's focused and intelligent action-oriented style, the farm has grown to be one of the State's largest growers of vine-ripened tomatoes, and the foremost banana producer in the State and the country, thanks to Richard's hard work, ingenuity, and commitment.

Words that describe Richard that come to mind include, "gets straight to the point and won't waste your time;" "has a positive, open attitude;" "is interested in his employees and their welfare;" "promotes sustainability," "approaches problems with heart;" and "lives by the Golden Rule." You will be hard pressed to find a more consummate, thoughtful, caring, and dynamic person who also happens to be a farmer than Richard Ha, and he will definitely be an asset to the Board of Agriculture.

Richard was honored as a 2008 University of Hawai'i Schidler College of Business Hall of Honor Award recipient for his many achievements. He is a member of CTAHR's Board of Advisors, the Hawai'i Farm Bureau Federation, and numerous other community and agricultural industry organizations.

A noteworthy accomplishment which exemplifies Richard's focus, drive and commitment is his successful involvement in the thirty-meter telescope (TMT)

# LATE TESTIMONY

being located on Mauna Kea. His philosophy of "preparing now so that our children and their grandchildren can lead sustainable lives in Hawai'i," examined Hawaiian values, sustainability, jobs, educational opportunities, and future resources to the island's economy. Supporters of the TMT faced tremendous obstacles and opposition, but through understanding, commitment, and inclusion of many diverse groups, the TMT is on its way to becoming a reality and will provide unprecedented opportunities for education of the community and its people. It is Richard's wide scope of knowledge, sprinkled with his good common sense, his willingness to listen to all sides, his pleasing and collaborative personality, that gets complex tasks done with positive results.

I am more than confident that Mr. Richard Ha's terms to the Board of Agriculture will result in long lasting contributions to agriculture in Hawai'i.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Richard Ha's confirmation.

# LATE TESTIMONY

ALLUVION, INC.

P.O. BOX 820

HALEIWA, HI 96712

Re: Nomination to the Board of Agriculture  
G.M. Nos. 271 and 272

## Nomination of Richard Ha

Senator Clayton Hee  
Chair, Senate Committee on Water, Land, Agriculture, and Hawaiian Affairs

Dear Senator Hee:

Please support the nomination of Richard Ha for appointment to the Hawaii Board of Agriculture. He is one of the "stellar" farmers in our State with a very successful operation called Hamakua Springs. The vision he has for Hawaii's agriculture is one that can be shared with those on the BOA.

An accountant by training, Richard runs a very profitable operation since he is knowledgeable on cost management. He will help scrutinize the loan applications that come before the Board to see that there is sound spending and use of funds being requested. His passion for renewable energy is visible on his farm with the installation of hydros to generate power for his farm.

Hawaii will be very fortunate to use the expertise of a skilled businessman like Richard Ha on one of the important Boards for Hawaii.

My full support for Richard Ha is being sent to you.

Much mahalo,

  
Susan Matsushima

CEO

637-8835

**TESTIMONY**  
**GM 271 & GM 272**  
**LATE**  
**(END)**